

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 170730  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011  
DRAFTED BY S/S:PTARNOFF:BABS  
APPROVED BY S/S:PTARNOFF  
-----024795 212157Z /61  
O 212127Z JUL 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 170730

NODIS  
CHEROKEE - EYES ONLY DR. BRZEZINDKI

FOL RPT DAMASCUS 4647 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DTD 21 JUL 77

QUOTE: S E C R E T DAMASCUS 4647

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR SECRETARY FROM MURPHY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR US PLO  
SUBJ: SCRANTON/PLO MEETING IN LONDON

REF: STATE 166523

1. I HAD BEEN UNABLE SEE DAOUDY PRIOR JULY 21 TO  
RELAY INFORMATION PARA 4 STATE REFTEL CONCERNING SCRANTON/  
AQIL MEETING. NOTED THAT MEETING HAD SINCE BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED  
PUBLICLY BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN BUT THAT I WISHED UNDER-  
LINE FACT SCRANTON HAD MET WITH AQIL PURELY AS PRIVATE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 170730

CITIZEN AND WAS NOT AUTHORIZED SPEAK ON BEHALF USG.

2. DAOUDY SAID WE COULD ASSUME THAT SYRIA WAS VERY PLEASED  
WITH SUCH MEETINGS AS IT WAS BY EVIDENT INTEREST IN  
HEARING PLO VIEWPOINTS DEMONSTRATED BY OTHER AMERICANS  
SUCH AS CODEL HAMILTON AND UPCOMING MEETING BETWEEN LANDRUM  
BOLLING AND ARAFAT. HE ADDED THAT SYRIA WOULD HAVE THOUGHT

IT "NORMAL," HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF OUR OTHER DISCUSSIONS, TO HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF SCRANTON/AQIL MEETING BEFORE THE FACT. I REPLIED THAT PHENOMENON HE WAS OBSERVING WAS INCREASED CONTACT BETWEEN PLO AND MEMBERS OF AMERICAN "ESTABLISHMENT" ACTING ON OWN. STRESSED THERE WAS CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN MEETINGS OF PROMINENT AMERICANS, WHATEVER THEIR BACKGROUND, WITH PLO AND WHATEVER PLO MEETINGS MIGHT EVER TAKE PLACE WITH OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

3. DAOUDY THEN SAID THAT, ACCORDING TO HIS INFORMATION, THE LINE BETWEEN WHAT I DESCRIBED AS THE "ESTABLISHMENT" AND THE U.S. EXECUTIVE SEEMED BLURRED IN THE CASE OF THE SCRANTON/AQIL MEETING. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AT THAT MEETING HAD BEEN THE PLO DRAFTED MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO PRINCE SAUD, WHICH FAHD AND SAUD HAD PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT CARTER DURING THE CROWN PRINCE'S WASHINGTON VISIT. I SAID IF THIS WERE A FACT, DAOUDY WAS BETTER INFORMED THAN I. HE ASKED ME TO TRY TO CONFIRM WHETHER HIS INFORMATION WAS CORRECT.

4. COMMENT:

AT TIMES DAOUDY DISPLAYS WHAT I WOULD CALL A "CURRENT EVENTS MENTALITY" FIRING OFF A SERIES OF QUESTIONS ARISING FROM HIS PERUSAL OF THE AREA AND EUROPEAN PRESS. IN THE  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 170730

INSTANCE OF US-PLO CONTACTS, HE IS SHOWING A DEEPER INTEREST. THERE WAS ALSO AN UNMISTAKABLE EDGE IN HIS IMPLICATION THAT SYRIA HAD SOME SORT OF RIGHT TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THESE CONTACTS. THIS IS ISSUE WHICH YOU MAY WISH ADDRESS DIRECTLY WITH ASSAD IN YOUR MEETING HERE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED:

REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS WHAT, IF ANYTHING, FURTHER I SHOULD SAY TO DAOUDY.  
MURPHY UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS, ONLY  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 166523  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PLOS, PBOR, US, JO, XF, UK, PLO, (SCRANTON, WILLIAM), (AQIL, EASIL)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009